



## Jarrow Cross Church of England Primary School

“Encourage one another and build each other up.”

(Thessalonians 5:11)

Newsletter 7: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Dear parents/ carers

We are already settled back into our routines after the Easter holidays and the children are enjoying the better weather and the greater access to the school field that this affords. At the end of last term, we introduced a clearer explanation of what appropriate play at school looks like. This means that there is a zero tolerance response to children putting their hands on others; playing tag and football are the only times we expect to see this. We don't allow any rough play and children have informed me that this has made the playground a better place to be where the rules and expectations are clear.

Mrs Armstrong's playgroup on Monday afternoons continues to be a wonderful new addition to what we offer the local community. It takes place in the school hall from 2.00 to 3.30pm and costs £2 per child and £1 for any additional children from ages 0-4. It is a warm and welcoming playgroup that will help children learn, explore, build confidence and interact with others. Plus, there is always tea, coffee and biscuits! Please spread the word to anyone you know who may be interested in attending.

Can I once again remind parents and carers of the need to park safely on Borough Road. For the safety of all children, please do not park on the zig-zag lines outside our setting. These markings are there to keep the area clear so drivers can see pedestrians crossing the road. We also have neighbours at the top of Borough Road who receive regular visits from carers. Access to their drives has been blocked repeatedly. Please park respectfully at all times, not on any lines at the end of residents' driveways. Thank you for your support.

The summer term is always busy with trips and opportunities to visit the school for parents and carers. I have added a calendar of events to keep you up-to-date with our summer term plans. Please make a note of these and we look forward to continuing to work with you as we support our children to, 'encourage one another and build each other up'.

Mr Taggart



Kelly Ogden will begin a KS2 drama club this Friday. She visited school last week to offer free taster sessions to all of KS2. Children loved her session so much that they have been playing some of the games that she taught them during play and lunchtime.



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### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May Y5 visit to the coast  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May Polling Day  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May Reception visit to the library  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May SATs week begins for Y6  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May Y5G visit to the library  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May Y5W visit to the library  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May Y6 Road Safety Workshops  
Week beginning June 8<sup>th</sup>: Home visits for new Reception pupils  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June Y6 leavers service at Durham Cathedral  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June Y5 Bikeability week  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June Reception and Y6 class photo  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June Y5 Vex Go Robots competition  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June Y5W visit to Northumbria University  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June Y5G visit to Northumbria University  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Reception Bugs n’ Stuff visit  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Dance Festival (TBC)  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June Dance Festival (TBC)  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June Reception/ Y6 trip to the library  
Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup> Reception and KS1 Sports Day (more info to follow)

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July KS2 Sports Day (more info to follow)

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July Reception, Y1 and Y2 disco 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July Y3/4 disco 5.45pm – 6.45pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July Y5 and Y6 disco 4.30pm to 6.00pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July Y6 transition to secondary schools

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July Whole School Transition Day (pupils meet their new teacher)

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July Annual School Reports distributed

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July Rocksteady Concert 10am

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July Y6 Leavers Service 3pm

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July Last day of term

This list is not exhaustive and will be updated in subsequent newsletters.



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### St. George's Day

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> April we celebrated St. George's day in our whole school collective worship. We explored how the St. George's cross is a Christian symbol of respect, compassion and care for all.

We reflected on the themes of courage, kindness and faith and thought about how we can be brave enough to do the right thing and stand up for what is right; how we can help those in need and how we could follow the faithful example of St George.

### Sporting Successes

In the week before the Easter holidays, our school team completed in the semi-finals of the Durham County Cup. We played three matches against high-calibre opposition from all over the region. The team played wonderfully coming away with two draws and one defeat but this was unfortunately not enough to progress. This is the first time since I have worked at Jarrow Cross that the team has progressed this far. Thanks also goes out to all the parent and carer helpers who have supported the team in their matches.

This week our girls' team played in the final round of fixtures for this season. They played superbly coming away with two wins out of two matches without conceding a goal. The girls have finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the league, just outside qualification for the champions league.



### Breakfast Bagels

I wanted to pass on the information at the earliest point that from September that the National Breakfast Club programme will be coming to an end, therefore we will not be able to provide a whole-school bagel breakfast. However, there are plans to introduce a free school grab-and-go style breakfast club that will run for 30 minutes before the start of the school day from 8.15 to 8.45am. This is separate from our current paid breakfast club provision which will remain unchanged. Please look out for further updates in the coming months.



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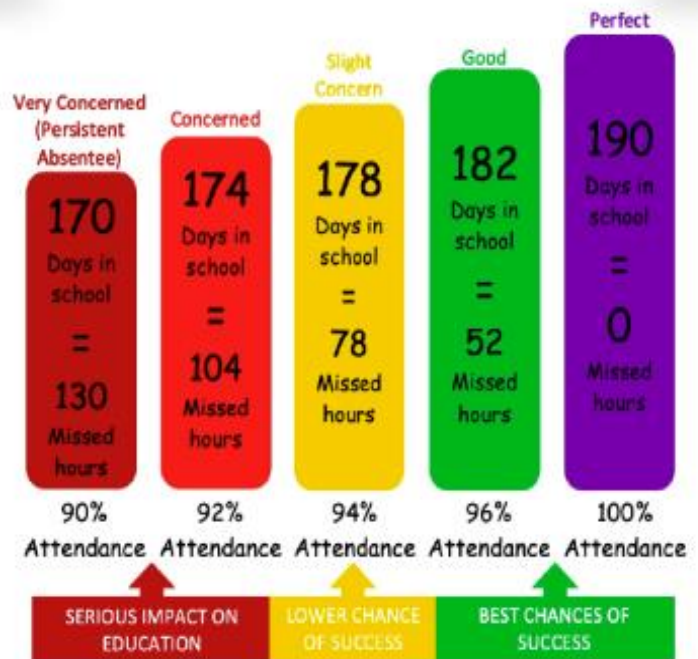
(Thessalonians 5:11)

## Attendance

Improving school attendance remains a high priority for the senior leadership team. Our target attendance for pupils is 96% which matches expectations at Jarrow School where most of our Y6 pupils transition to.

Being around teachers and friends is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. We want to develop good habits at the earliest point and research shows that students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A-level results.

Improving attendance from below 90% (persistently absent) to more consistent attendance has a positive impact on outcomes. If you need support with attendance, please speak to your child’s class teacher or contact Miss Stobbs our school family worker who can explore any barriers to good attendance with you.



ReceptionA	91.41%
Year 1E	97.5%
Year 1M	97.65%
Year 2S	97.14%
Year 2W	95.43%
Year 3/4F	95.56%
Year 3/4M	97.92%
Year 3/4P	94.44%
Year 5G	96.67%
Year 5W	92.73%
Year 6S	97.5%
Year 6W	84.76%

Whole school attendance week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> April